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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/749,037	12/29/2003	Rajagopal Baskaran	OR03-11001	8268
51067	7590	12/13/2007	EXAMINER	
ORACLE INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION c/o PARK, VAUGHAN & FLEMING LLP 2820 FIFTH STREET DAVIS, CA 95618-7759			CABUCOS, MARIE G	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2163	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			12/13/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/749,037	BASKARAN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Marie Antoinette Cabucos	2163	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 4/19/2007 and amendment filed 8/31/2007.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-4, 6-12, 14-20 and 22-24 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-4, 6-12, 14-20 and 22-24 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 29 December 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

1. Claims 1-4, 6-12, 14-20 and 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by **Kwok Hung Lau (US Patent no. 7,080,088)**.

Regarding claims 1, 9 and 17, Lau discloses in figures 1, 7 and 8 a computer-implemented method to facilitate merging different versions (source and target) of a database object, comprising receiving metadata (120, 122) associated with a first version of the database object and a second version of the database object, wherein the metadata provides a data structure that describes the database objects and is distinct from the database objects themselves (col. 6, lines 43-65); comparing metadata associated with the first version of the database object with metadata associated with the second version of the database object to create a difference report (figure 8, reference 815); and creating an action plan from the difference report that specifies how to merge metadata associated with the first version of the database object with metadata associated with the second version of the database object (figure 8, reference 820), wherein creating the action plan from the difference report involves allowing a

user to select which actions to take in merging metadata in order to produce merged metadata with desired properties and attributes (figure 8, reference 825).

2. Regarding claims 2, 10 and 18, Lau discloses a computer-implemented method to facilitate merging different versions of a database object, wherein metadata associated with the first version and the second version of the database object are represented in Unified Modeling Language (col. 4, lines 10-47 and figure 4).

3. Regarding claims 3, 4, 11, 12, 19 and 20, Lau discloses in figures 7 and 8 a computer-implemented method to facilitate merging different versions of a database object, wherein comparing metadata associated with the first version and second version of the database object involves customizing which associations to compare; and customizing how to compare the first metadata and the second metadata (col. 18, lines 24-59).

4. Regarding claims 6, 15 and 22, Lau discloses in figures 7 and 8 a computer-implemented method to facilitate merging different versions of a database object, wherein creating the action plan involves examining the difference report to determine what actions to take in bringing metadata associated with the first version and second versions of the database object into agreement (col. 20, lines 20-67, reconciliation process).

5. Regarding claims 7, 15 and 23, Lau discloses in figures 7 and 8 a computer-implemented method to facilitate merging different versions of a database object, wherein metadata associated with first and second versions of the metadata object can

define database objects, wherein database objects include tables, columns, dimensions, cube, views, materialized views, and external tables (col. 6, lines 43-67).

6. Regarding claims 8, 16 and 24, Lau discloses in figures 7 and 8 a computer-implemented method to facilitate merging different versions of a database object, wherein the action plan can specify a number of actions including creating, updating, and deleting database objects, and their properties (col. 20, lines 50-67).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Pertinent Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Prior art of record to Scott Kramer (US Patent no. 6,216,140) discloses a methodology for the efficient management of hierarchically organized information.

Prior art of record to Frederic Spaey (US Publication no. 2002/0059299) discloses a system and method for synchronizing databases.

Prior art of record to Ramanathan et al (US Publication no. 2005/0010919) discloses approaches for mitigating portal objects from a source installation to a target installation.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

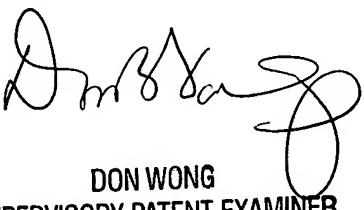
Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marie Antoinette Cabucos whose telephone number is 571-272-8582. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don K. Wong can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Marie Antoinette Cabucos
Examiner
Art Unit 2163



DON WONG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100